

N.O.W. News

Official publication of the Numismatists Of Wisconsin



From the Editor

Summer greetings fellow NOW members! Time to take a break from mowing the lawn. Grab a cool beverage and plop down on a lounge with this issue of NOW NEWS. In fact, get a cooler - you may want to read this one cover to cover!

Your Board of Governors has had two meetings since our last report in NOW NEWS and NOTES, and there are some exciting new announcements on the horizon you won't want to miss, including Young Numismatist memberships, upcoming NOW shows, and FREE word ads for members! Incidentally, many of you have taken advantage of our multi-year membership discount. It's a great way to 'lock in' for more than a year and helps keep our membership rolls strong a couple years into the future. Consider a life membership also, and 'lock in' for life without paying another dime!

As you can see, this is another one of those issues where I threw you a curve ball. Our Table of Contents and our Show Calendar are usually on the inside front and inside back covers of NOW NEWS, but this time I just had to print the reverse of our cover subject on the inside covers. I'm sure you'll agree it was worth it.

Once again, we have an outstanding line up of original articles for your pleasure. Starting out with an author who is new to these pages, Dave Herrewig tells us a fascinating story about 'Wartime Silver in West Allis, WI'. Next we have the privilege of another article by David Gladfelter. Exclusively written for NOW NEWS, 'Early Numismatic Orphans of Wisconsin' could be called a follow-up to the 'Scripmates' article that David collaborated on in our last issue. It could be said that once you enjoy getting engrossed in this article, you will be in deep chit. Jerry Binsfeld gives us another excellent dealer interview; this time we 'Meet Russ and Ken Konig'. Our next special article is from return author Tom Snyder, 'Wisconsin's State Capitol \$2 National Note' relates the incredible story of our cover subject, and Fred Borgmann gives us another little tantalizing tale in 'There's Nothing New Under the Sun'. WOW! What an issue!

Not to be outdone are our regular features; NOW NEWS and NOTES, Club News (check out the show reports), What's New at the U.S. Mint?, ANA News, BOOKS!, and the Show Calendar.

Summer has something for everyone. Relax, go fishing, play ball, chase kids - whatever you like to do during the summer months, don't forget to enjoy your hobby along with everything else.

Jeff Reichenberger





NOW News and Notes

NOW Board of Governors meetings

Your Board of Governors met on March 5 in Madison, and again on April 30 in Green Bay.

In attendance in Madison: Thad Streeter, Ken Muelling, Bruce Benoit, Lee Hartz, Darrell Luedtke, Matt Janzen, and guest Tom Galway.

Items discussed; Tax exempt document filing; NOW Show dates – 2018 Wausau, 2019 Green Bay; Possible free ads in NOW NEWS for members; Junior membership rates; One Governor position open for 2017-2019, Tom Galway interested.

In attendance in Green Bay: Thad Streeter, Ken Muelling, Matt Janzen, Bob VanRyzin, Joel Edler, Cliff Mishler, Bill Oldenburg, George Alafouzos, Leon Saryan, Darrell Luedtke, Jeff Reic.

Items discussed; NOW Show dates – 2018 Wausau (approved), 2019 Green Bay (approved) 2020 Oshkosh (approved); Free word ads for current NOW members (approved); Junior Membership rates (pending constitutional addendum); Life Membership rate update to \$200 (approved); Membership status – holding steady with slight growth; **Tom Galway** approved as new Governor (**welcome!**); NOW NEWS in color – well received-; 2017 Budget approved.

Next BOG meeting will be held in Milwaukee at the annual Milwaukee Numismatic Society show on Sunday, October 1, at 1pm.

NOW Membership Dues

Thank you all for getting your membership dues in promptly! It is so important for the club's finances. MANY of you took advantage of our new multi-year discount rates, it's a great way to lock-in for a few years and save money as well. The board has just adopted a new rate for Life Membership, a mere \$200 locks you in for life – still a fantastic bargain!

Free Word Ads

NOW NEWS is now offering FREE Word Ads for CURRENT NOW Members! You must have your membership dues current, and you may submit a 50 Word Ad offering your goods or services free of charge. Ads must be sent to the NOW NEWS editor by the following firm deadlines: Spring Issue – Feb. 15, Summer – May 15, Fall – Aug. 15, Winter – Nov. 15.

SHOW REPORTS / CLUB NEWS

March 5, Madison – Madison Coin Club (NOW show)

Sunday morning March 5th was cool, crisp and sunny: a beautiful spring day to hold the Madison Coin Club's 85th Anniversary Coin Show. We were also hosting the N.O.W.'s 57th anniversary annual coin show, making it two celebrations in one. Before the festivities started on Sunday, we hosted the traditional "Mystery Dinner" on Saturday night. As the name implies, it will remain a mystery except for the few people who attended.



The sold out bourse started filling up a few minutes before the official 9:00 opening. Unfortunately, a couple of dealers did not show up to staff their tables. We handed out commemorative wooden nickels to all attendees. The crowd was good and steady all morning but started to thin out after 1:00 P.M. By 3:00 it was essentially over. I estimated the total attendance at slightly over 350. This is based on the serial numbers of the free hourly door

prize tickets we handed out. I did not get to survey all the dealers, but for the most part the ones I did talk to said they had a "good" or even "great" show. However, one said his sales were "Not so good." We signed up 4 new members and one of them has attended all our monthly meetings so far.

In the afternoon N.O.W. held their Board of Governors meeting and then the General Membership meeting. Cake was served to all in attendance at the meeting and then served to the dealers at their tables.

Our Fall Show is scheduled for Sunday, October 29 at our regular venue at the Madison Sheraton Hotel. John Krueger of Collectors Choice Coins in Sun Prairie will organize the event. Please contact John cchoice2@yahoo.com or 608 834-4114 for more information. Don't worry, the Packers play on Monday night October 30.



Our 86th Anniversary Show is set for March 11, 2018 also at the Madison Sheraton Hotel. Mark your calendars now!

April 7-8, Milwaukee – South Shore Coin Club

The South Shore Coin Club (SSCC - www.ssccmke.org) hosted their 53rd Annual Coin Show on April 7-8, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, located near 13th and College Avenue, in Milwaukee, WI. The SSCC event is the largest coin show in Wisconsin. The show had 47 dealers and set up 95 tables. Many dealers had multiple tables. Attendance at the two-day show was approximately 600. Though the club charges a small admission, the first fifty veterans and seniors 62 or older were admitted free on both days. We want to thank Show Chairman Joe Bartoszewicz, Co-Bourse Chairmen Michael McAndrew and Howard Thorpe, President Jim Taylor and all the members of the SSCC for providing the American Numismatic Association (ANA www.money.org) with a free table.

The hard-working members of the SSCC handled the registration, sold raffle tickets and gave out special wooden nickels that were made for the show. The show also had an hourly door prize drawing. The competitive exhibits were chaired by Darrell Luedtke. The Crown Plaza is an excellent location for a coin show with its free airport shuttle and parking, a well-lit and carpeted convention hall, a very nice restaurant and the Interstate within blocks of the hotel. Security was very good and nothing was reported lost or stolen. The dealers appeared to have good shows. This location also has many other hotels within walking distance.

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, in cooperation with the South Shore Coin Club, held their 37th Annual Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Clinic at this show on Saturday. The Clinic was coordinated by Leon Saryan, PhD, along with members of the MNS. Speakers for the clinic were, Leon Saryan, Bruce Benoit, and Lee Hartz. Justin Perrault handled the computer, and other assistants for the clinic were Gary Bieringer, Josh



Scouts and Volunteers

Whitehall, Howard Thorpe and David Herrewig. The MNS Boy Scout clinic was started in 1981 by Lee Hartz and Tom Casper. The clinic was revamped by Bruce Benoit in 1985. Several national organizations have adopted the MNS Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Clinic. Before the clinic ended Bruce Benoit took the scouts and their family members on a tour of the bourse and exhibit area. Out of the 31 Scouts who took the Clinic 28 passed all requirements.

We look forward to attending next year's SSCC 54th coin show, at this same location on April 13-14, 2018. *Yours in Numismatics, John and Nancy Wilson, ANA National Volunteers*

April 9, Appleton – Fox Valley Coin Club

The Fox Valley Coin Club held their 62nd annual show at the Darboy Club and it was again well-attended and successful. We heard positive comments from both dealers and customers alike. There was a steady flow of people from the beginning to the end including several young people who were very enthusiastic about the show. We once again had generous donations from several dealers that were appreciated by both the Fox Valley Coin Club and the lucky winners. Next year's show will be on Sunday, April 8, 2018 at the Darboy Club, 9am until 4pm.

April 23, Wausau – Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

THE PLAZA HOTEL in Wausau was the site, for our second year in a row, of our April 23, 2017, annual show. Over 300 dealers and collectors filled our newly expanded bourse. This was our largest square footage of dealer space in years. The morning saw the bulk of collector activity. As our treasurer, Charles, described, "For a warm Wisconsin day, the bourse was a flurry of activity along with the kid's penny table." The 60+ degree bluebird afternoon slowed activity considerably. However, most collectors left with some of their sought after items, thanks to the diversity of our many dealers and the fine work of many of our members. Post show, approximately ten per cent of dealers reported disappointing results, while the rest responded with positive to very positive sales.



Ellen Muzynoski, Terry Kafka, and Charles Klopstein welcome collectors to the Wisconsin Valley Coin Club's annual show on April 23.



Kid's Table: WVCC Members and parents help kids fill free penny folders.



Happy Kids only door prize winner. (Photos: Judy Kafka)

April 26-29, Schaumburg, IL, Central States Numismatic Soc.

The 78th anniversary Central States Numismatic Society convention was another well organized and successful coin show orchestrated by General Chairman Kevin Foley and his talented staff. Kevin has run more shows than anyone in the U.S. The show was held at the Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center in Schaumburg, Illinois from April 24-29, 2017. The show was very busy with lots of activities for everyone to do. Below are a few of the highlights.

The Bourse

The show had 282 booths with 889 dealers registered to those booths. Thirteen clubs and societies also took a table. The Early Bird count totaled 146 and 2,996 visited the dealers. All the dealers were very satisfied with the public traffic which kept them busy all three days.

The Auctions

Heritage Auctions of Dallas, Texas conducted a five auction sessions over the three days. The auctions were for U.S. coins, U.S. currency and foreign currency. The highlight of their sales was lot #4356 at the Platinum Night sale. The coin was an 1866 Liberty Double Eagle, PR65 Cameo. Only 30 pieces were made and this piece is one of only ten known. The estimate was \$300,000 or more. The coin sold for \$517,000 with the buyer's premium. The donor, a widow who wishes to remain anonymous gave the coin the Grace Point Church in Valparaiso, IN earlier this year as "seed money" for the congregation to construct its own church building.

The Exhibits

The CSNS continues to have outstanding competitive exhibits. There were 52 competitive exhibits totaling 196 cases. There were 3 noncompetitive exhibits totaling 14 cases. There were two first time exhibitors and the exhibitors came from 11 states. The Milwaukee Numismatic Society and the South Shore Coin Club participated by sponsoring the Medals category of the competitive exhibits.

The Seminars/Educational Programs

Seminar: Dealer Glen Jorde gave a two-day seminar on Basic Paper Money Grading. Educational programs: Robert Campbell talked about Morgan Dollars. Andrew Kimmel spoke on Artificial vs. Natural Toning. Peter Huntoon's forum was A Pathway to Building a World Class National Bank Note Collection. Cindy Wibker gave an Exonumia Overview. Because my wife says I have too much stuff, she attended the Chicago Coin Club talk on 'How and When to Sell Your Collection'.

Young Numismatists Program

Dave & Heidi Heinrich put on a program for Young Numismatists (YN's) on Saturday with a Treasure Hunt and identifying foreign coins from a catalog to earn the coin.



Busy YN table at Central States



The ever-present Ray Dillard was at the front of the hall handing out his complimentary elongated cent. His elongated this year featured the logo of the Chicago Cubs, 2016 World Series Champions.

All the exhibitors received a 1 oz. silver round. This year's design was the state seal of Kentucky. The two people on the seal, a pioneer and a statesman, represent all the people. They are acting out the meaning of Kentucky's motto, "United We Stand; Divided We Fall". In the succeeding years, the state seal of each of the 13 states within the Central States region will be featured on the medal for that year.



If you missed attending this year's show, mark your calendar for next year's 79th anniversary convention which will be on April 25-28, 2018 at the same location. We are very fortunate to have such a great show so close to Wisconsin. *—Tom Casper*

NOW at CSNS convention

NOW was well represented at Central States Annual Convention. We had a club table and passed out information about membership and back issues of NOW NEWS. Many of you were kind enough to drop by and say hello. We were able to recruit several new members and chat with other clubs representatives. In addition to the many individual members who attended CSNS, a good number of our dealer members were set up and doing business for the week. It was good to see a large Wisconsin numismatic contingent in Schaumburg.



Cliff Mishler and Jeff Reichenberger man the NOW club table



YN and NOW member Emmy Reichenberger offered her services as a page

Among the NOW Dealer Members who had tables at Central States were; JB Coins and Collectibles-Kenosha, Jim's Coins-Milwaukee, Chief Coin and Supply-Oshkosh, Avenue Coins-Appleton, Gary's Coins & Stamps-Wisconsin Rapids, Oak Creek Coin and Currency-Oak Creek, Greater Milwaukee Coin & Jewelry-Brookfield-Waukesha, American Coin & Jewelry-Racine, and Paul Reiser Resources-Green Bay. Let's keep patronizing these, and all of our NOW Member Dealers, they are the life-blood of the hobby. *(Apologies to any NOW Dealer Member I may have inadvertently missed on this list. –Editor)*



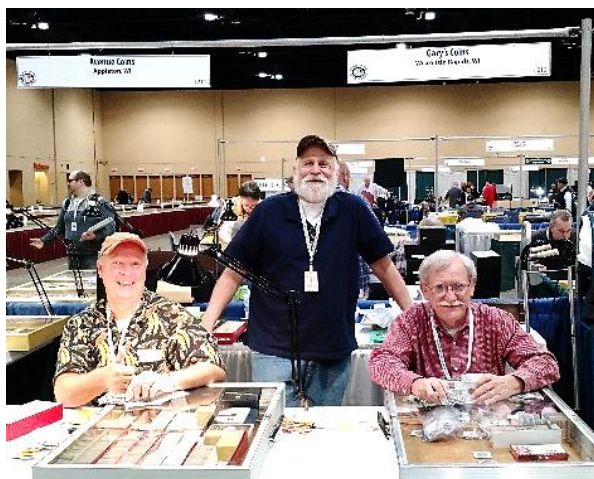
Jerry Binsfeld - JB Coins/Collectibles and frequent NOW NEWS contributor



Randy and Sue Miller - Chief Coin and Supply



Russ and Ken Konig - Greater Milwaukee Coin and Jewelry



Joe Pankratz and Jim Redeman - Avenue Coin, and Gary Rosencrans - Gary's Coins

April 30, Green Bay – Nicolet Coin Club

The Nicolet Coin Club held its annual Spring show on April 30, 2017. It was great, the dealers and the public loves the new location; Stadium View Bar and Grill. It was great to have the NOW Board of Governors meeting there this year. The show was busy from the beginning to the end. All the dealers had good things to say. I thought bullion, again was hot, key date coins and currency were selling good too, there was something for everyone. Our next show will be in the fall, November 5, 2017, don't miss it!

May 7, Kohler – Sheboygan Coin Club

The Sheboygan Coin Club held their annual Spring Coin Show at The Village 170, Kohler, WI, on Sunday, May 7. The show was well attended. Besides having many new and repeat visitors this year, some guests came from other parts of the state. One person even came from California.

Those who attended this year's show commented on how nice the new location was. Previous Sheboygan Coin club shows have been at the Sheboygan Ice Center. According to those who came, the location was clean, had ample parking, and, more importantly, found the hall easy to move around in as there was quite a bit of space between the 24 dealers and tables.

Forty-one dealers were present this year. Many of them had coins, tokens, paper money, supplies and other coin and currency collecting materials needed by the collector. There was something to be found for everyone.

Ed Rautmann was the chairman of this year's Show Committee. Jim Longo, and his dog Zeva, provided security and kept everyone safe. A food truck was on hand and was able to serve up some mighty fine sandwiches and sides.

One concern that some in attendance shared was the lack of proper lighting. Some felt that the existing lighting was not ample enough for viewing and inspecting coins. A suggestion for dealers who plan on attending next time is to bring enough lighting for the tables to ensure that customers can properly view possible items.

The Sheboygan Coin Club looks forward to future shows at this same location and continued success for dealers and collectors.



Busy bourse in Kohler

WEST ALLIS WARTIME SILVER

By Dave Herrewig #2382

There has never been a United States Mint in West Allis, Wisconsin, but in 1943 and 1944 there could have been one. The amount of silver that passed through the city in those two years surpassed the combined usage of the Philadelphia, Denver and San Francisco mints (for the same years) by a large margin.

I had never heard this story of silver until my wife's book club was reading *The Girls of Atomic City*, the story of women who worked on the Manhattan Project in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. She mentioned that the narrative involved an enormous loan of silver from the Treasury Department for the project. The Manhattan Project led to the building of the first atomic bomb, the one dropped on Hiroshima in 1945.

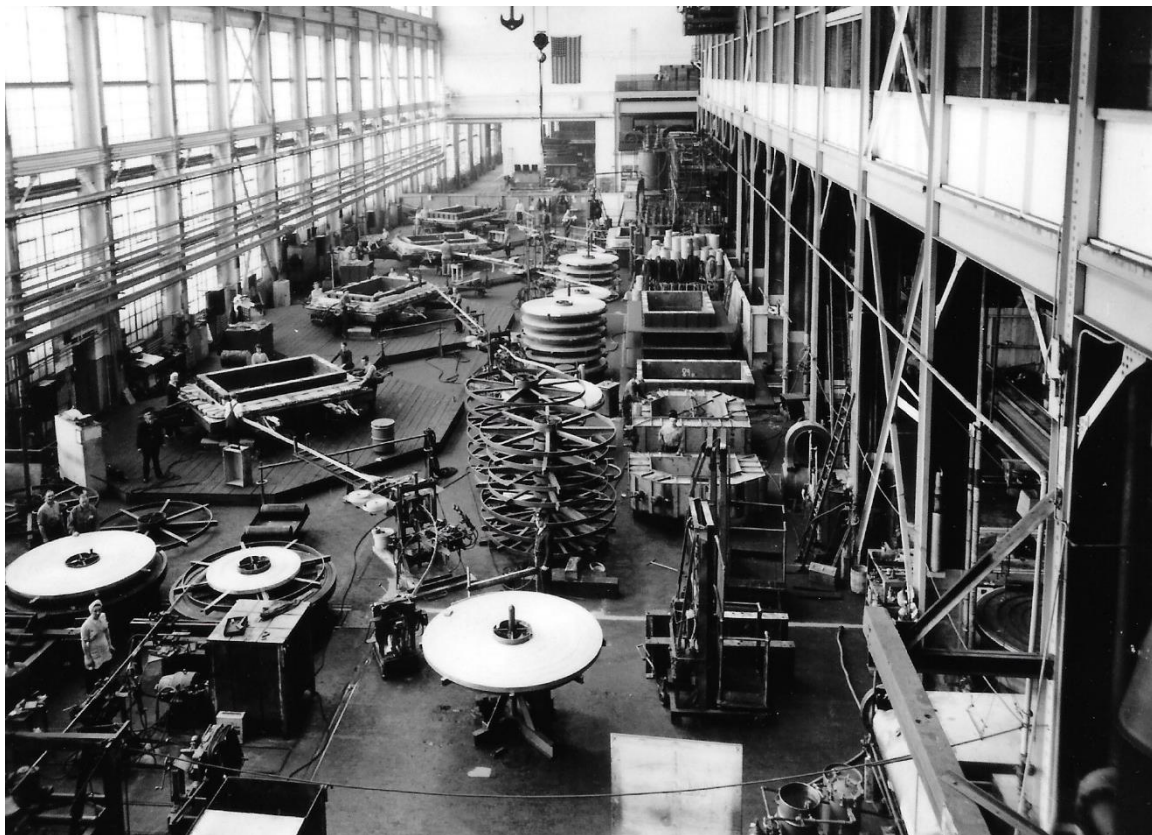
Allis-Chalmers Co., West-Allis Plant, Milwaukee, Wis



I started reading and learned that the final manufacturing process before Oak Ridge was at Allis Chalmers in West Allis. What intrigued me most was the huge amount of silver that went into and out of the area. My first thought was that this was a huge melt of silver coins, but it appears that only ingots were used, from the West Point Bullion Depository in New York. Cameron Reed, a physics professor at Alma College in Michigan, has done extensive research on this project and I have relied substantially on his material.

Once the decision was made to pursue an atomic bomb, one question was how to produce enough enriched uranium. The process selected required massive amounts of copper for the windings of the required electromagnets. Copper was in high demand during the war, so silver was selected as a substitute. Without getting into the physics of the process, one needs to know that the silver could make coils which were used to produce a high-intensity magnetic field needed to separate out the critical uranium 235 isotopes.

The War Department would not inform the Treasury Department of the exact use for the silver, but still obtained over 29 million pounds from the West Point Depository. The final total consisted of over 400,000 bullion bars, each about 1,000 fine troy ounces. I'm not certain if the ingots were 0.999 fine but eventually the silver ended up at that level of purity. The metal went first to a refining plant in Carteret, New Jersey where the amount was actually increased with extremely careful cleanup processes which recovered metal lost there in previous years. From there it went to a nearby Phelps-Dodge plant where the final product was coils of silver strips about the size of large car tires.



*This wartime photo at Allis Chalmers shows the magnet spools being wound with strips of silver.
(Photo courtesy of Milwaukee County Historical Society.)*

Most all of this was sent to Allis Chalmers in West Allis, though a small amount went directly to Oak Ridge. The shipments to Allis Chalmers were in sealed cars, all under 24-hour supervision by armed guards. In West Allis, the coils were unwound, combined into larger coils, and wrapped around the steel spools of the magnet casings. This operation took place between February, 1943 and August, 1944. All the work was at the Hawley Works, a roughly two-and-a-half block long building that faced Hawley Road at W. Pierce Street.

Extra security was not needed for the silver once it left Allis Chalmers for Oak Ridge as the coils were inside welded-shut steel casings. When finished, Allis Chalmers produced 940 coils, each about 14 tons. Professor Reed lists Allis Chalmers as producing 27,418,294 pounds of silver magnet coils and 268,745 pounds of silver busbars (conductors); a total of 27,687,039 pounds as a comparison figure with the US Mints. Using figures from the 2016 Red Book, I calculated during the same years the three US Mints used 2,642,429 pounds of pure silver for nickels; 4,022,002 pounds for dimes; 4,063,059 pounds for quarters and 3,763,535 pounds for half dollars; a total of 14,491,025 pounds. Allis Chalmers processed almost twice as much silver as the US Mints!

I haven't read the Milwaukee or West Allis papers for this period but would guess that there wasn't any mention of the nature of this project at Allis Chalmers. In fact, most of the 5,000 employees in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, didn't know what they were working on, either. An interesting note is that President Franklin Roosevelt made a surprise visit to Allis Chalmers in September, 1942, five months before this project began. The company was working on other military projects, too. In fact, Allis Chalmers made three other components for the Manhattan Project besides the silver coils.



The K-25 (Manhattan Project) plant in Oak Ridge, TN -circa 1944

After the war ended, the understanding between the Treasury and War Departments was that the precious metal would be returned. It was, eventually, but the last of the silver wasn't transferred back to West Point until 1970. Though the process for making weapons grade uranium evolved away from use of electromagnetic coils, the coils were used to separate other atomic elements.

Today, the Hawley Works are long gone, as is Allis Chalmers. Their location on Hawley Road, just south of the Hank Aaron State Trail, is occupied by an office complex, Renaissance Place, which appears to have about the same footprint as the earlier building. Tenants in the complex include Johnson Controls, US Bank, Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare, and CBS 58. There's no sign that so much silver passed through there, but that's what makes history so much fun.

EARLY “NUMISMATIC ORPHANS” OF WISCONSIN, and nearby towns

By David D. Gladfelter, NLG

In his 1991 survey of round cardboard tokens, David E. Schenkman lamented the fact that, although these pieces are eagerly sought by collectors of both tokens and obsolete paper money, “it seems strange ... that these interesting items have been so overlooked by collectors of both specialties.”ⁱ Even today, 26 years later, no catalog of these rare and interesting items –Schenkman’s “numismatic orphans” -- has been written.

They had their origin shortly before outbreak of the Civil War.ⁱⁱ With the war came hoarding of coins, and a variety of privately issued metallic and paper expedients to keep the retail economy running in the absence of coins. Among these were colorful cardboard chits of various shapes and sizes that served as a circulating medium of exchange while at the same time advertising the issuing merchant’s business. Round ones were unusual, even then, thereby attracting public attention. This article is too limited in scope to address the bigger need posed by Schenkman. Hopefully it will at least call attention here in Wisconsin to a little known category of local exonomia.



Beloit, Rock County: L. S. Cowles New York Store. Krause WI-67 SC1.ⁱⁱⁱ

.05 denomination, orange, uniface, location and date handwritten on the back. According to “the Gazetteer”^{iv}, Beloit did have a “New York Store” but its proprietor in 1865 was S. S. Waterman, not L. S. Cowles, for whom no contemporaneous record of a Beloit address could be found.^v Waterman’s Gazetteer advertisement described his business as a “Dealer in Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Boots & Shoes,” located on State Street.



The term “New York Store” was in common use during the Civil War era and was probably a generic term, like “Bon Ton”, for a store selling fashionable merchandise. At least two Civil War tokens, those of the New York Store in Waterbury, CT, and Reynolds & Co. of Cedar Rapids, IA, use this name although the stores were located outside New York. The name is also used on the chit of Scott & Hansen described below.

Krause expressed some doubt that this chit was originally issued by a Beloit merchant, and he may be right. The handwritten 1867 date shows that it remained in circulation after the war’s end as the coin shortage continued. This is the Krause plate specimen. He estimates its rarity, and I agree, as unique-to-5 known.

Columbus, Columbia County: R. W. Chadbourn. Not in Krause. Five of the chits described in this article were issued by Columbia County merchants. Two denominations of this merchant’s chits are known, .05 orange and .10 green. They are drawn on the “Columbus Bank” and signed on back by the issuer. With printed date NOV. 18th. / 1862. No imprint.



The “Columbus Bank” was a separate entity from the “Bank of Columbus”, the latter having closed in 1861. Thereafter, on September 7, 1861, Chadbourn, had been a land agent and currency broker, opened the “Columbus Bank” as a private bank in the same building as former Bank of Columbus.^{vi} At the end of 1863, Chadbourn’s private bank obtained charter #178 pursuant to the National Banking Act and became the seventh national bank in Wisconsin with Chadbourn as its president.^{vii}

Specimens of both denominations of chits were in the collection of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston.^{viii} There is no indication that Chadbourn acted as agent for his private bank in issuing them. More likely they were related to his real estate or exchange businesses. My rarity estimate for these and all other chits described herein is unique-to-5 known.



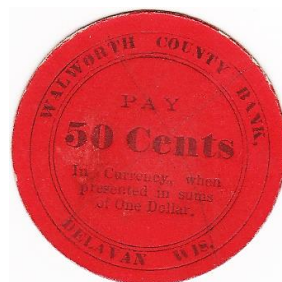
Columbus, Columbia County: Frank Huggins. Not in Krause. .03 denomination, violet. Drawn on the “Columbus Bank” as previous. Initialed on back by the issuer. With printed date JAN. 29th / 1863. No imprint, but stylistically similar to the previous.

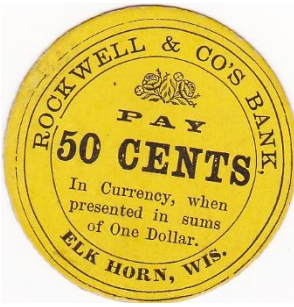
Per “the Gazetteer,” Huggins was a dealer in “drugs, medicines, perfumery, paints, oils,

stationery, fancy articles, window glass, putty, etc.”^{ix} – a varied stock, but apparently not so comprehensive as to be called a general store. Huggins was also the postmaster of Columbus, with his store adjoining the post office on Ludington St. Huggins also issued a Civil War token,^x dated 1863, qualifying this chit as a “scrip mate” to the token.^{xi}

Delavan, Walworth County: Jno. (John) Brown Co. Not in Krause. .50 denomination, red, uniface. Drawn on the Walworth County Bank, which opened in 1855 and closed in 1865.^{xii} Issuer’s scrawled signature in pencil on the blank back. No date, no imprint.

This issuer is unlisted in the Gazetteer and no information about him has been found. A search of local newspapers might turn up an advertisement, notice, or even a story. This chit, like the next, was in the extensive, specialized Proskey-Boyd-Ford collection of Civil War era cardboard money sold at auction in 1985.^{xiii}





Elk Horn (sic), Walworth County: J. L. Holley. Not in Krause. .50 denomination, yellow, uniface. Drawn on Rockwell & Co.'s Bank, a private bank that operated from 1859 to 1865.^{xiv} Signed by issuer in ink on blank back, with handwritten word "Duplicate." No date or imprint.

Kehler & Holley are listed in the Gazetteer as doing business in this town as produce and commission merchants.^{xv} This listing is probably for the same business at a different, likely later, point in time from when the chit was issued.

Kilbourn City, Columbia County: Scott & Hansen New York Store. Not in Krause. .15 denomination, yellow, printed on both sides. No redemption terms or bank identification. No date or imprint, but the chit can be tied to the Civil War period both by its style and by the fact that specimens of this denomination and a .25 were in the Massachusetts Historical Society's collection of Wisconsin Civil War scrip.^{xvi}

Kilbourn City was the creation of railroad enterprise, being strategically located on the main line of the LaCrosse & Milwaukee Railroad where it crossed the Wisconsin River near the midpoint between the terminal cities. It was named in honor of Byron Kilbourn, a Milwaukeean, and president of the railroad in 1856. It developed quickly. By 1857 it had, among other retail businesses, two dry goods stores, one clothing store, one grocery and provision store, one drug and grocery store, one book and variety store, two millinery stores – any one of which may have been the issuer of this chit. No specific mention was found in the Columbia County history of the New York Store or of a business operated by Messrs. Scott and Hansen, although three persons with the surname Hansen are mentioned. The most prominent of these was Guido J. Hansen, incorporator of a flouring mill and manufacturing company and Village President in 1872 soon after incorporation.^{xvii}



Construction of the railroad was completed between Milwaukee and Kilbourn City by 1858. Soon afterward, it was absorbed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. The route is now part of the Amtrak system. The present name of Kilbourn City is Wisconsin Dells.

Lodi, Columbia County: James McCloud. Krause WI-43 SC6. .50 denomination, green. Not drawn on a bank but "payable in currency when presented in sums of even dollars." With printed date NOV. 25th. / 1862. With space for signature, but unsigned. No imprint, but stylistically similar to the two Columbus chits described above. The Krause plate specimen.



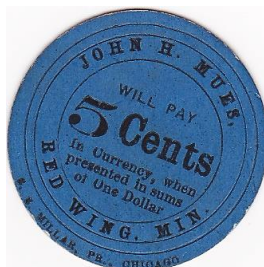
Per the Columbia County history, McCloud came to Lodi in the fall of 1845, having been born in Gallipolis, Ohio, on November 27, 1822, and having moved westward to Indiana, then Illinois, then Iowa, before coming to the Wisconsin Territory. He married a local woman with whom he had five children, one of whom tragically drowned as she was about to graduate from Lawrence University. McCloud prospered in the lumber trade, owned large tracts of land which he farmed, raised livestock and operated a commercial fishery. In addition, he is listed in the Gazetteer as a grocer and druggist.^{xviii}

Pewaukee, Waukesha County: The Mill Store. Not in Krause. .01 denomination, yellow, uniface. Not drawn on a bank but “payable in cash, when presented in sums of five cents.” (This merchant made his chits easy to redeem; the usual quantity required was one or more dollars’ worth.) With printed date 1864. Issuer’s initials WH written in ink on the blank back. No imprint.



Only four Pewaukee merchants are listed in the Gazetteer, one being William Hall who operated a general store.^{xix} This general store was almost certainly the “Mill Store” referred to on the chit, and the presence of Hall’s initials completes the identification.

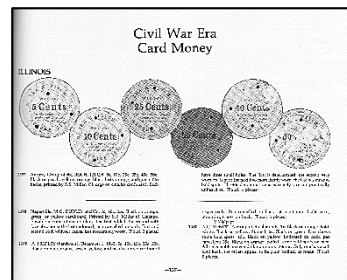
Red Wing, Goodhue County, Minnesota: John H. Mues. Hewitt E320 F5.^{xx} .05 denomination, blue, uniface. Not drawn on a bank but payable “in currency, when presented in sums of one dollar.” Signed in Fraktur (old style German script) by the merchant in blue ink on the blank back, along with a serial number (2/177) in black ink. No date. With imprint “S. S. MILLAR, PR., CHICAGO” on front below text, which is within concentric circles.



Mues is unlisted under Red Wing in the Gazetteer, but Hewitt states that as late as 1900 he operated a confectionery and cigar store there. More is known about the printer, S. S. Millar. Fred Reed found advertisements for his “Round Change Checks, size of half a dollar, admitted by all to be THE BEST CHANGE CHECKS issued” appearing in Chicago newspapers during 1862.^{xxi}

The price was \$4.00 per thousand, \$3.50 for each additional thousand. I found his advertisement for baggage checks in the 1861 Chicago city directory. Both types of printing required machinery for cutting blanks from sheet cardboard, probably subsequent to the printing. The address of Millar's shop was 55 Clark St. Chicago.

Aurora, Kane and neighboring counties, Illinois: Ira H. Fitch. A set of 6 worn, damaged and canceled chits of denominations .05, .10, .25, .35, .40 and .50, in peach, yellow, orange, blue, dusty orange and green colors respectively, was in the Proskey-Boyd-Ford collection sold in 1985 by Bowers and Merena, and illustrated in the catalog.^{xxii} They are not illustrated here. The chits had no backs (probably from removal from a previous mounting) so it is unknown whether or not they were uniface or signed or dated. The two lowest denominations had the S. S. Millar imprint as on the previous. This is the largest multi-denominational set seen. Fitch issued a Civil War token^{xxiii} so the chits also qualify as “scrip mates.” So far, the chits in this set are unique. On his token, Fitch advertised himself as a “dealer in leather, harness &c.”



Bowers and Merena catalog offering Fitch chits under 'Civil War Era Card Money'.

Ascribing the chits to printers. We begin with the chits having the imprint of S. S. Millar. That issued by John H. Mues of Red Wing, MN, has the Millar imprint, is 38 millimeters in diameter, is uniface, has text within concentric circles and has a stock form of redemption language. Three others, those issued by L. S. Cowles (presumably of Beloit), Jno. Brown Co. of Delavan and J. L. Holley of Elk Horn, are also 38mm, uniface, with concentric circles and identical or nearly identical redemption language, set in identical or similar typefaces, thus can be ascribed to Millar as well. That issued by the Mill Store of Pewaukee is 38mm, uniface and with concentric circles but dissimilar in redemption language and type face, yet likely a Millar product. That issued by Scott & Hansen of Kilbourn City is a 38mm chit but the similarity to Millar products ends there; the workmanship is also inferior to the Millar chits. It remains of unknown origin.

The remaining four chits are all 35mm in diameter and two sided. There are similarities of style among them: All have exact dates, wavy dashed inner circular lines, and similar type faces. All were issued by Columbia County merchants. None have imprints. The best we can say about their ascription is that they appear to be the product of a print shop in the Columbia County area.

All of the chits were made and circulated during or close to the Civil War, most likely as a small change expedient. Their advertising value is nil.

See endnotes next page...

- ⁱ “Round Cardboard Tokens: Numismatic Orphans,” in The American Numismatic Association Centennial Anthology, ed. Carl W. A. Carlson and Michael Hodder (Colorado Springs: The American Numismatic Association, 1991), 209.
- ⁱⁱ Ibid.
- ⁱⁱⁱ Chester L. Krause, Wisconsin Obsolete Bank Notes and Scrip (Iola, WI: Krause Publications, 1994), 39.
- ^{iv} Wisconsin and Minnesota State Gazetteer, Shippers’ Guide and Business Directory for 1865-’66 (Indianapolis: Geo. W. Hawes, publisher and compiler, 1865) (“the Gazetteer” for short). Hawes intended to publish this very useful directory biennially, but no further editions appeared. A copy is in the Wisconsin State Historical Society library, from which Doug Watson excerpted entries for Civil War token-issuing merchants about the time he published Illustrated Guide to ... Wisconsin Civil War Tokens circa 1968. “The Gazetteer” has been reprinted.
- ^v The History of Rock County, Wisconsin ... (Chicago: Western Historical Co., 1879) was also consulted, but it contained no mention of either Cowles or Waterman. This is not surprising, as these chits, as well as Civil War tokens, tended to be issued by small businesses, many of which operated only for a brief time.
- ^{vi} The History of Columbia County, Wisconsin ... (Chicago: Western Historical Society, 1880), 688, 958; Gazetteer, op. cit., 75, 230.
- ^{vii} Louis Van Belkum, National Banks of the Note Issuing Period (Chicago: Hewitt Brothers, 1968), 17, 391.
- ^{viii} Maurice M. Gould, “Wisconsin Civil War Shin-Plasters,” Paper Money 3:21 (Winter 1964).
- ^{ix} Op. cit. 75.
- ^x Fuld WI120B. George and Melvin Fuld, U. S. Civil War Store Cards, third edition, ed. John Ostendorf (n.p., Civil War Token Society, 2014), 561.
- ^{xi} David Gladfelter and Sterling Rachootin, “Scrip Mates, Part 8,” The Civil War Token Journal 50(4):26-27 (Winter 2016). Reprinted by Numismatists of Wisconsin earlier this year.
- ^{xii} James A. Haxby, Standard Catalog of United States Obsolete Bank Notes, 1782-1866 (Iola, WI: Krause Publications, 1988), 4:2560; Krause, op. cit., 64.
- ^{xiii} Auctions by Bowers and Merena, Inc., The Russell B. Patterson Collection (and other properties), New York, March 25-26, 1985, lot 1466.
- ^{xiv} Haxby, op. cit., 4:2566; Krause, op. cit., 98.
- ^{xv} Op. cit. 89.
- ^{xvi} Gould, op. cit. fn. 8.
- ^{xvii} History of Columbia County, op. cit., 807-832.
- ^{xviii} History of Columbia County, op. cit., 577, 993; Gazetteer, op. cit., 132.
- ^{xix} Op. cit. 87.
- ^{xx} R. Shawn Hewitt et al., A History & Catalog of Minnesota Obsolete Bank Notes & Scrip (New York: R. M. Smythe & Co., Inc., 2006), 321.
- ^{xxi} Fred Reed, “Merchants Circulated Pasteboard Small Change,” Coins Magazine, March 9, 2010.
- ^{xxii} Op. cit. fn. 13, lot 1397.
- ^{xxiii} Fuld IL25B. Fuld, op. cit. fn. 10, 94-95.

Meet Russell and Ken Konig

Greater Milwaukee Coin & Jewelry

Interview by Jerry Binsfeld #0091L

Russ and Ken are a father son team who are partners and co-owners of two coin shops. Judy, wife and mother of the partners is the bookkeeper who keeps an orderly sales and purchase summary for the accounting firm that does the taxes. Ken stated that his mother knows the business well and is good at what she does. Ken went on to say that this behind the scenes job is essential to every business and he is so thankful that his mother is so accurate and efficient.



Russ and Ken working the Central States show April 26-29, 2017

Greater Milwaukee Coin has two locations:

One is located in Brookfield at 4040 N. Calhoun Rd, phone 262-781-4200, Hours are M-F, 10:00 am -5:00 pm and Sat. 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

The other is located in Waukesha at 615 N. Barstow St., phone 262-896-8955, Hours are W-F, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm and Sat. 10:00 am -3:00 pm

Both stores buy and sell - U.S. and World Coins and Paper Money, tokens, medals, gold and silver, diamonds, jewelry, coin books and supplies.

Ken runs the Waukesha store that is located in the lower level which he started in 1999 and recently he expanded and purchased the Jewelry store located at the first level. The jewelry store has been in the same location for 30 years. Ken stated that the business is good and that he retained the staff from the previous owner.

Russ runs the Brookfield shop which was founded in 1987. Russ has been buying and selling coins locally for over 50 years. He is an expert in grading, detecting counterfeit coins and knows both the U.S. and world field of numismatics. Ken is extremely bright and knows the numismatic area almost as well as his father. Ken is the marketing and computer professional who also excels in the buying aspect at many of the larger coin shows. Russ will generally do the selling as Ken works the bourse floor. Ken will however ask his father for the final decision in the buying of rare and expensive coins. One thing is for sure there is a very good working relationship in their partnership and one can easily see the close bond between father and son. NOW members should make it a point to take in both shops, for the Konig's have a great inventory of raw and slabbed coins as well as bank notes, silver eagles, bullion and much more.

Russ, tell us about your start in coins?

"I started collecting coins as a youngster around 1949, and frequently visited a neighborhood coin shop located at 47th and Center streets, owned by Hubert Polzer. A few years later I started working for him part time. Most of the time I worked in the back room where I was out of the way. I did odd jobs and of course it was part-time because I was really young. I remember riding my bike to and from the shop."

Did you get a chance to buy coins at Hubert's shop?

"Oh yes, I remember there was a box of barber dimes and another box of standing liberty quarters. The dimes were 15 cents each and there was a good number of high grades. The standing quarters were higher priced but there were a lot of 1917 to 1924 dated ones."

Can you remember any other "tidbits" from Mr. Polzer?

"I remember Hubert telling me not to waste my time buying the common barbers and standing libs. He stated that I should buy something rare. So I did. I went beyond my budget and put a rare coin on lay away. It was a 1793 half cent. It took me a long time to pay it off and do you know that I still have that coin."

What else do you remember from Mr. Polzer?

"I know that he was instrumental in getting the local clubs started as well as Central States. He sold a lot of Whitman supplies and was a registered dealer. He also sold early coin boards and neat early type."

When did you become a full time dealer?

"It was 1960. I attended coin shows where I set up and did the usual buy and sell. I also supplied local coin shops with coins."

What coin show was most memorable to you?

"My first ANA show which was in 1960. I was amazed by the rare coin offerings that were for sale. I remember proof liberty nickels in sets, rolls of key date cents, high grade early dollars etc. Most everything was there which I never encountered at the small club shows."

You two belong to many coin organizations, what are some?

The American Numismatic Association, Professional Numismatic Guild, Better Business Bureau, Central States Numismatic Society, Numismatists of Wisconsin, South Shore Coin Club, Milwaukee Numismatic Society, Waukesha Coin Club, PCGS, NGC, Coin net and their Racine Numismatic Society."

You are only one of two Wisconsin Dealers that belong to the Professional Numismatic Guild, what's the advantage of this organization?

"Members must adhere to a strict code of ethics and exhibit knowledge, integrity and responsibility in their business dealings and because of that people are more at ease when buying or selling with us. Membership is composed of the country's top rare coin and paper money experts so there is trust when dealing with fellow members."

As we write this interview gold is \$1265.80 and silver is \$17.24 - where will gold and silver be one year from now? (Russ)

"I get this question all the time and I don't think anyone can predict what gold and silver will be in the future. As our web page states, "while anyone can speculate on what will happen, national media outlets seem to present alternating opinions every other day. We leave the speculation to the talking heads."

What causes metals to change prices? (Ken)

"Metals change prices for a number of reasons, including supply, demand, interest rates, and the price of oil and other commodities. Lately, the most important factor has been the decline in the value of the U.S. dollar, caused by the increasing concern of the Federal Reserve printing too much money."

Ken, you being a 1991 Marquette University graduate with a B.S. Degree in Finance gives us a little info on the Federal Reserve?

"You're asking a lot but I'll give it a Joe College try. The Federal Reserve System is of course the Central Bank of the United States. Its monetary policy directly affects interest rates, it indirectly affects stock prices, wealth and currency exchange rates. Through these channels monetary policy influences spending, investment, production, employment and inflation. So putting it bluntly when Chairperson Janet L. Yellen speaks stocks and gold and silver prices can change and change fast whether it's temporary or not, it changes."

Russ, changing the subject - do you guys buy and sell stamps and baseball cards?

"We pretty much just handle coins, paper money and gold and silver related items. We know people who buy and sell stamps and baseball cards and we refer our customers to them."

Ken, True or False, not all slabbed Mercury Dimes are equal in Extra Fine?

"True, there are high end and low end graded coins in the same grade. That's why CAC came into being."

Seeing that you mentioned CAC tells us a little about this company? What do the letters stand for? What do you think about this company?

"In 2008 John Albanese formed the Collectors Acceptance Corporation (CAC). They give their approval on NGC and PCGS graded coins. They put their sticker on the high end coins. I think it's a great idea for them and mostly a money maker. A collector and certainly a dealer should be able to agree or disagree with the grading service and should proceed accordingly. In fact a grading service isn't perfect. If I had the time and money I would love to send 10 coins to get graded and then crack them out of the holders and after a year send them back to get regraded and see how consistent they would be. I would do that with both NGC and PCGS."

How consistent do you think they would be?

"I would guess maybe 7 out of 10 would be the same."

What grades would be ones that would be incorrect the second time through?

"XF and AU, MS 64 and 65"

Is grading more liberal then it was 30 years ago? (Russ)

"I believe so, a PCGS green holder which was their first, generally will get a higher grade. I have seen AU coins get a MS 62 the second time."

Generally, grading Morgan dollars, the reverse appears to be a point or two higher and if that's the case should we use a number for both the obverse and reverse? (Ken)

"No, it's too complicated, we would end up with a 40 page grey sheet."

Is there a difference between dipping a coin and cleaning a coin? (Russ)

"I would say both are harmful and don't do it."

What's your favorite coin to sell? (Russ)

"High grade MS-67 silver dollars. They are difficult to obtain and quite popular in dealer to dealer transactions."

What is the most expensive coin that you ever bought and sold? (Russ)

"Early in my coin career I had the good fortune to buy and sell an 1879 Coiled Hair \$4.00 Stella, only 12 are known, and when I sold it I made 1 and 1/2 percent which is a good profit on an expensive coin like that."

Give us some information on this coin, it's a pattern correct?

"Yes, the four-dollar Stella--so called because of the five -pointed star on the reverse was never minted in quantities. The 1879 dated ones were struck for congressmen to examine. George T. Morgan designed this coin."

What commemorative coin sells the best and are any good investments? (Ken)

"Of the modern group I would say the curved baseball." As for the commemoratives dated from 1892 to the 1950's, 144 different were produced and you're article in a recent NOW News indicated that not all were winners. I believe it's what the collector enjoys and some of these early commemoratives have sharp strikes and good eye appeal and are probably underpriced. The enjoyment of collecting and the search should come first."

How does one become proficient at grading? (Ken)

"Study the grading books, practice looking at a lot of 3rd party (slabbed coins), ask questions and get opinions from the sellers, and look at a good number of coins in the same denomination."

Presently, what coin and what coin sets do you think are good investments? (Ken)

"All non-bullion U.S. gold coins. At present levels early U.S. gold coins are good buys especially if there is a sharp strike, good luster and free from problems, such as abrasions and rim bumps. Some are trading for near melt which is hard to understand. Now is the time to build or upgrade. Also, I think CC dollars are a good investment. The 1885 and 1878 are expensive, and if housed in a GSA box, free from nicks, especially on the face of Lady Liberty, they'll be winners down the road. We see a lot of the 82, 83 and 84's, but if they are high grade they will grow in value. The 80 and 81 are a little more cost wise then the three above but again higher grades should do well."

What's your take on Canadian coins? (Russ)

"The mintage is low but there is not as many collectors going after Canadian coins. Here again if one collects Canada go for luster and clean surfaces but not cleaned or problem coins."

Your thoughts on coin show exhibits? (Ken)

"It's a great idea for they are very informative. The recent Central States Coin Show had some great ones. You not only saw rare coins, notes, medals and tokens but the information given is worthwhile. Also a good number of the exhibits showed 3rd party graded coins that allowed the viewer to test their grading skills."

How was the Central States Coin Show that just ended in late April?

"It was a good active coin show and we did quite well. I think they could draw more people though if they would advertise on a popular Chicago radio station. An earlier show held in Tinley Park drew a large crowd mainly because of their radio advertisement."

How many coin shows does Greater Milwaukee do in a year? (Ken)

"Twenty or more a year of which 5 or 6 are major ones."

Of the major coin shows you attend which is the best? (Russ)

"The FUN which is the January show in Florida. I like it because we sell a good number of coins and my wife Judy comes with. So we go out to eat frequently and it's a nice time to get away from the Wisconsin winter. Also there is a lot of dealer to dealer transactions which is a great help in filling want list and adding to our inventory."

And finally the last question and this one is for Ken. I hear you love golf and are quite good? (At this point Russ starts laughing - very loud, I might add.)

Ken doesn't give a clear answer but does state that he golfs "quite often at Curry in Milwaukee." I'm wondering if 'quite often' means a high number of strokes or a high number of rounds. This ends the interview with the father and son team and I thank them both.

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Wisconsin's 1874 State Capitol \$2 National Note

By Tom Snyder #797



At the 2008 Professional Currency Dealers Association national convention in St. Louis, through the Lyn Knight Currency auction, I acquired from the Chet Krause sale, the \$2 Madison Lazy Deuce. This note was originally obtained by my old time friend, Del Bertschy, from a First Wisconsin-Milwaukee bank teller for face value in 1940.

Del was a prominent Wisconsin numismatist and longtime member of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society, Numismatists of Wisconsin, and Central States Numismatic Society. He passed away on February 22, 1988 at the age of 91.

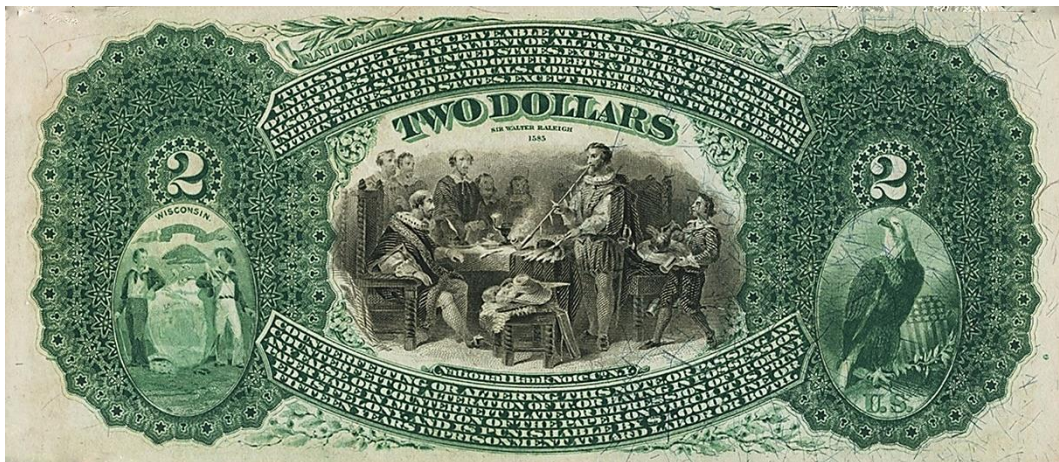
Del was a lifelong traveling salesman for Roundy's food distributors. He lived in Shorewood, Wisconsin, a northeast suburb of Milwaukee. He was an avid collector of old coins and paper money, and was the ultimate networker for the purpose of corralling these collectables from the public often at face value. He became a minor stock holder in every downtown Milwaukee bank, when they were locally owned, where he met people in the banking business and let them know of his interests. During World War II, there was rationing of cigarettes among many other commodities, and Del with his inside access to Roundy's warehouse which brokered cigarettes at that time, was able to acquire some and pass them around to bank tellers, who obliged by saving old or unusual coins and paper money for him. Now, at that time, an east coast dealer by the name of Barney Bluestone was offering a 10% premium for any U.S. large size currency, so Del had an outlet for any items he did not want to keep for his collection. He also had similar outlets for the coins he acquired. While calling on remote country store locations, long after President Roosevelt called in the gold in 1933, many rural dwellers thought that gold was totally illegal, so Del told his merchants that if anyone came in with a gold coin, old large size paper money or gold certificates, they should gladly accept it at face value and he would redeem it from the merchant, as he had "bank connections."



Del Bertschy

I think it was 1986 when Central States was in Bloomington, MN and I drove Del to the convention. Being a natural born salesman, he talked all during the 6 1/2 hour drive there and again coming back. Del talked of proverbial sailing ships, and sealing wax, and cabbages and kings. Also the growth of rural electric, and taking trains north to central Wisconsin, then hiring a horse and wagon at the livery to call on grocers and dry goods stores in smaller outlying towns. Life was a lot slower back then before Del bought his first car around 1922, but you could not get from Milwaukee to Waukesha and back without having to change a tire along the way. Cars came with a full length "dust coat" for tire changing purposes. It was during that drive he related the Lazy 2 story you are about to read. It was a very informative history lesson.

The 1962 Central States convention was held at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee where Del met another Wisconsin paper money collector by the name of Monte Sherwin, of Black River Falls. They discussed their mutual collecting interests and sat at the same table for the Central States convention breakfast during which Del showed off the Madison Lazy Deuce. Well, Monte fell in love and pestered Del to sell him that note for about four years following. One morning in 1966, while conversing on the telephone Monte offered Del \$1,000 for the Madison Lazy Deuce. That was an astounding offer in 1966, about 4 to 5 times general market value. Del in a weak moment, said "ok Monte, I will sell you that note next time I see you." Four hours later, the precise time it takes to drive from Black River Falls to Shorewood, Monte was knocking on Del's door, cash in hand, to take away the Madison Lazy Deuce before Del could change his mind. Monte's arrival was unexpected and Del really thought they would meet at another convention.



So, now Monte owned the note for another 22 years until his advanced age, then gave Chet Krause of Iola, Wisconsin the pick of his collection in 1988, so the Madison Lazy Deuce next went to Chet, renowned numismatic publisher and founder of Numismatists Of Wisconsin. We collectors are grateful that in 2008 Chet gave all of us the opportunity to acquire a few pieces of his massive Wisconsin Nationals collection.

The note itself is in very fine condition, Bank serial number 67, sole survivor \$2 of only 140 ever issued from Madison as bank notes are redeemed and shredded by the government when they become excessively worn. The pen signed signatures are of N. B. (Napoleon Bonaparte) Van Slyke, president and also the first University of Wisconsin chancellor, who was known to live up to his name and Wayne Ramsay, cashier. Mr. Ramsay was a long time cashier and his signature appears on Madison notes issued some 35 years later. This lazy two was issued about 1874, due to the red (144) bank charter number overprint being required in that year to aid in sorting retired bank notes. Starting in mid-1875, the red seal design was changed to one of scallops instead of spikes. One and two dollar national currency denominations were part of the civil war reconstruction era and were discontinued in 1879 along with the discontinuance of civil war era fractional (small change) currency and the full resumption of silver coin production. The note is dubbed Lazy Deuce after the large numeral two lying on its face. Non collectors seem to miss this feature until you turn the note so the two is in an upright position. Then a smile appears on their face. Such are the joys of collecting. Oh, its cost this time was \$10,000.

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What's New at the U.S. Mint?

United States Mint Launches Public Design Competition for Program Marking 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11



The United States Mint announced a call for artists to design the obverse of the commemorative coin honoring the first manned moon landing. Authorized by law, the Apollo 11 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Program celebrates the innovation and bravery of the successful mission and the fallen astronauts who preceded that endeavor.

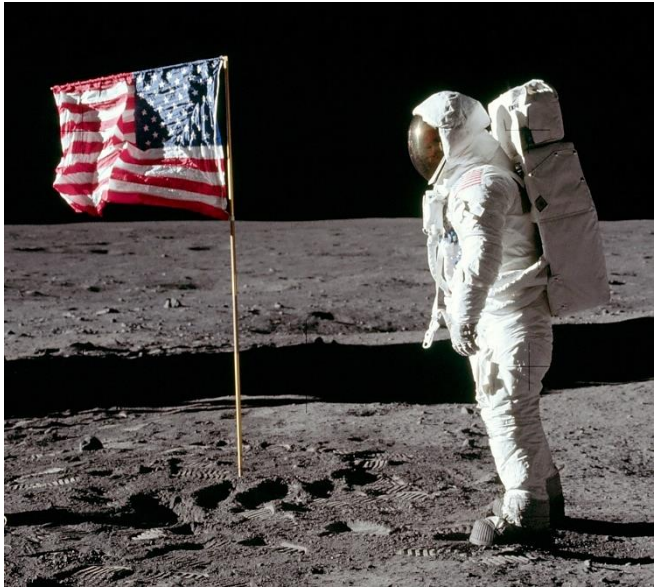
The competition invites artists to design a common obverse image that is emblematic of the United States Space Program leading up to the first manned Moon landing. The winning artist will receive \$5,000 and have his or her initials included on the coins. Competition details and entry can be accessed on the U.S. Mint website.

“The success of the crew and the team behind Apollo 11 nearly 50 years ago holds special meaning to Americans,” said David Motl, Acting Principal Deputy Director of the United States Mint. “The Apollo 11 Commemorative Coin Design Competition presents a unique way for artists to capture the sense of pride for such an enormous accomplishment, while also memorializing fallen astronauts.”

Phase One of the competition, which is open through June 29, 2017, or until 1,000 entries are received, calls for artists age 18 and older to submit portfolios of their prior work. From these entries, an expert jury will select no more than 20 applicants to participate in Phase Two. During Phase Two, artists will create an original design for the common obverse of the coin, which shall be submitted as a digital file.

The final winner will be announced in 2018. As authorized by law, the common reverse will depict a representation of a close-up of the famous “Buzz Aldrin on the Moon” photograph taken July 20, 1969, which shows the visor and part of the helmet of the famed astronaut.

For the first time in recent history, this commemorative coin program will be composed of four coins instead of three, including \$5 gold coins, \$1 silver coins, half-dollar clad coins, and five ounce silver proof coins. This will be the first time that a curved version of a five ounce silver coin is produced and offered by the United States Mint.



“The Apollo 11 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Program represents a meaningful and exciting undertaking for the United States Mint,” said Motl. “We look forward to the public’s participation in creating the final obverse design.”

United States Mint Announces Plans to Discontinue Mail Orders

The United States Mint (Mint) today announced that it is discontinuing all mail orders effective September 30, 2017.

The Mint will return any mail orders received after September 30 with instructions for placing orders online or by phone.

The consumer products industry is increasingly adopting Web-based sales channels, including mobile applications, that give the public more efficient, cost-effective, and faster ways to purchase products. The Mint is following this trend in an effort to better serve all its customers, and provide a more convenient and consistent ordering experience.

Future orders will be accepted at the Mint’s online catalog at www.catalog.usmint.gov or via telephone at 1-800-USA-MINT (872-6468), seven days a week from 8 a.m. to midnight ET.



ANA NEWS

Money Museum Unveils WORLD WAR I Exhibit

Called “The Great War” and more optimistically “The War to End All Wars,” World War I was an event that changed the world’s political map and the fabric of civilization. To honor the 100th anniversary of United States involvement in World War I, the Money Museum, operated by the American Numismatic Association (ANA) and located adjacent to Colorado College, is unveiling its newest exhibit, “Trenches to Treaties: World War I in Remembrance.”

The exhibit showcases coins and paper money from combatant nations, art medals and military decorations, as well as weapons and uniforms to illustrate the events and effects of World War I politically, economically and socially. “Trenches to Treaties: World War I in Remembrance” runs through Nov. 2018.

Notable artifacts on display include rare military decorations (awarded for heroism) such as the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor and the French *Croix de guerre*; personal items soldiers carried in the field; dog tags, military badges and insignia; propaganda and satirical medals; plus a trench that replicates the front lines of battle.



“Trenches to Treaties explores World War I with money and beautiful, thought-provoking medals. Themes range from finance, propaganda, art and commemoration,” said Money Museum Director and Curator Doug Mudd. “Exciting interactives include a life-size trench and operating morse code keys as used in trench communications. Come learn about the crash of the gold standard, merchant submarines and the role of pigeons!”

The Money Museum is located at 818 N. Cascade Ave, adjacent to the campus of Colorado College and next door to the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. Museum hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday, 10:30 am-5 pm. Admission is \$5 (\$4 for seniors, military and students). Kids 12 and under free. For more info; call 719-632-2646 or visit www.museum@money.org.

“There’s Nothing New Under The Sun”

By Fred Borgmann #1175

We have all heard that old expression many times and here is an example to prove it. The Bavarian Madonna Thalers issued since the 1600s are impressive but common coins, with the Duke Maximilian Joseph’s portrait on the obverse and the Madonna and Child on the reverse. What looks like scratches are really adjustment marks which are commonly found on the reverse of this type. When the coin was made, if it weighed too much a file was used to lower the weight; crude but effective. What makes the coin interesting is that the Radiant Madonna is sitting on a throne of clouds with her feet resting on a crescent moon symbolizing the defeat of Islam. The forces of Islam were a major threat to Europe until 1683 when a Muslim invasion force laid siege to Vienna. Fighting continued in the Balkans until the early 1700’s which could explain why a very similar design is also on many Hungarian coins of that time. Maybe now would be a good time to reactivate the Madonna and Child coin design.



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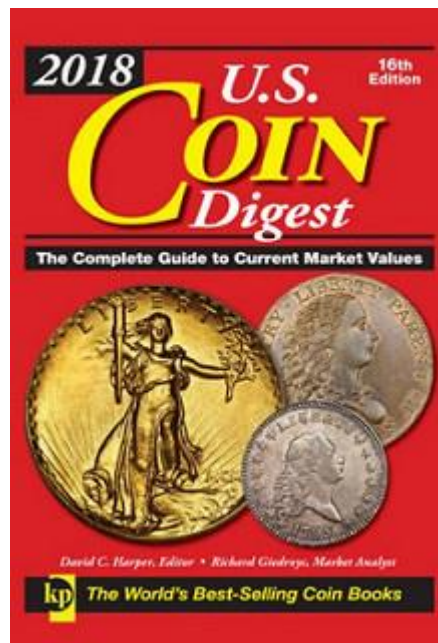
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